***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script  
Second Half Begins**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the beginning of the second half of the 2023 legislative session…

**Nat Snd 1 :02 Q: No. 39 be….**

The week began with 13 hours spent on [Senate Bill 39](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44496).

Senator Holly Thompson Rehder of Scott City is the sponsor. She tells her colleagues her proposal seeks to establish guidelines for student participation in athletic contests organized by sex…

**Thompson Rehder :10 Q: the opposite sex.**

But Sen. Tracy McCreery of St. Louis County says she does not see the need for this legislation…

**McCreery 1 :10 Q: Missouri children better.**

After all-night discussions, Senate Bill 39 was given first-round Missouri Senate approval. Missouri senators then gave [Senate Bill 49](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44407) preliminary approval. This proposal would establish the "Missouri Save Adolescents from Experimentation, or SAFE, Act." Thursday morning, Missouri senators sent both of these measures to the Missouri House of Representatives for similar consideration…

**Nat Snd 2 :02 Q: Senate Joint Resolution….**

On Tuesday afternoon, Missouri senators gave initial approval to [Senate Joint Resolution 35](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=366085).

Sponsor, Sen. Nick Schroer of O’Fallon, says this resolution would modify provisions relating to property taxes…

**Schroer :07 Q: to do so.**

During discussion on the floor of the Missouri Senate, Sen. Doug Beck of St. Louis points out this would be on a future ballot…

**Beck :07 Q: the voters themselves.**

Another positive vote would send Senate Joint Resolution 35 to the Missouri House for its consideration…

**Nat Snd 3 :02 Q: Bill 85 with….**

Part of Wednesday afternoon was dedicated to [Senate Bill 85](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44700).

Senator Jill Carter of Granby is the sponsor. She says her proposal would provide for the designation of local control school districts…

**Carter :07 Q: public school system.**

During discussion, Sen. Lauren Arthur of Kansas City pointed out she has seen a renewed interest in education from lawmakers…

**Arthur :07 Q: interest of students.**

Senate Bill 85 has been set aside for further talks…

**Nat Snd 4 :10 Q: for Neighborhood-Assistance Program.**

The second half of session also typically sees Missouri senators spend more time on legislation from the Missouri House of Representatives.

Senator Rusty Black of Chillicothe says [House Joint Resolution 43](https://www.house.mo.gov/bill.aspx?bill=HJR43&year=2023&code=R) would let Missouri voters decide new initiative petition rules for our state…

**Black :07 Q: impact their government.**

At the same time, several Missouri Senate measures remain unanswered from the first half of session.

Senator McCreery says she was able to add language to [Senate Bill 131](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44637)…

**McCreery 2 :08 Q: that are unhoused.**

The main proposal relates to firearm tax relief and awaits a final vote to send the bill to the Missouri House of Representatives for consideration…

**Nat Snd 5 :02 Q: business coming before….**

Session will resume on Monday.

And, remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

Reporting from the State Capitol, I’m Dean Morgan.